

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS GROUP

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For week ending 16 August 1949

Volume II

### The International Week

The international spotlight remained focussed on the OEEC where the ERP nations are negotiating the division of this year's ECA aid and are planning for liberalization of intra-European trade. In Strasbourg, the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe displayed its anticipated independence of the Council of Ministers. The Security Council lifted the Palestine arms embargo.

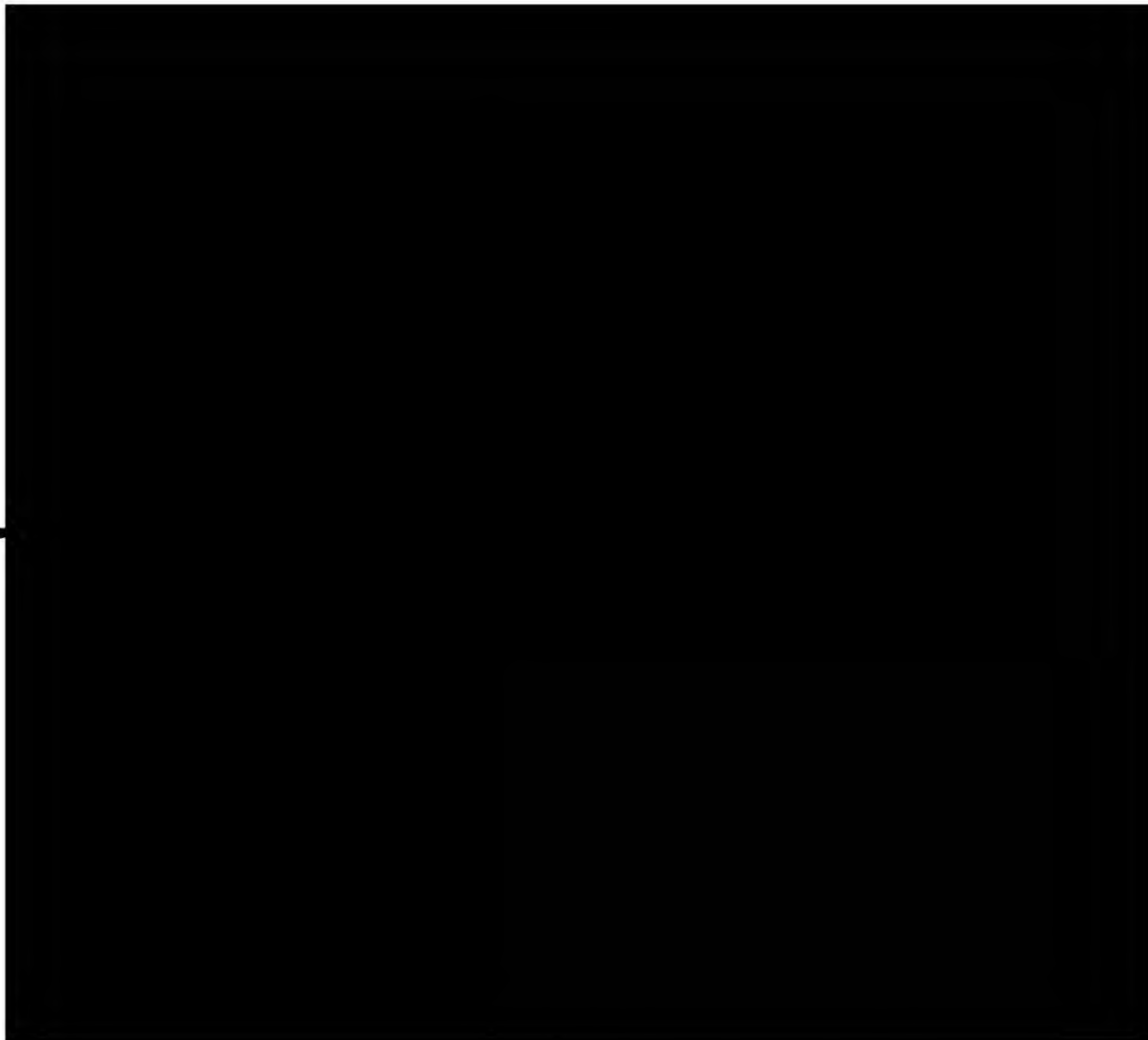
Soviet leitmotif at the General Assembly. Following the pattern of recent GA sessions where the USSR successively made "warmongering" and "disarmament" its keynotes, the Soviet propaganda leitmotif at Lake Success this fall will probably be a continuation of the "peace" offensive initiated late last year. Use of this dominant theme will enable the USSR to set a flexible course both with respect to the range of corollary themes and the intensity of the attack. The USSR will contrast its own devotion to "peace" and international cooperation with the aggressive imperialism of the US and UK. In such a case, the Kremlin would have a wide choice of topics such as the Atlantic Pact, Western rearmament, the atomic bomb, alleged efforts of the US and UK to obtain military bases in Libya and elsewhere from which to attack the USSR, colonial exploitation, Western imposition of trade restrictions, Point IV and race discrimination.

The selection of subsidiary themes and the violence of the attack may well be geared both to the rate of progress toward a new Council of Foreign Ministers meeting, arrangement for which is to be discussed simultaneously with the GA session, and to the outlook for agreement at a new CFM. Should the prospects seem favorable, the USSR might decide to moderate the pitch of its propaganda so that the Soviet "opening" at the GA might radiate peace, sweetness and light.

With a view to its effect on the CFM, the USSR might find it expedient to support its general theme of peace in the GA by some specific conciliatory gesture. This might logically be made in the Balkan situation where the fortunes of the Greek rebels have taken a turn for the worse and where the USSR may wish to

direct its primary attention to Tito. The UN agenda will offer the USSR numerous opportunities for taking an ostensibly more cooperative attitude for its propaganda effect, while still holding any substantive concessions to a minimum.

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OEEC seeks liberalization of intra-European trade. Indicative of their increased emphasis on solving the critical trade problem, the ECA countries have agreed in principle to remove

quantitative and exchange restrictions on a wide variety of products in intra-European trade. Numerous complex problems remain to be solved, however, before the program can be fully effective. The UK and Scandinavia, for example, refuse to remove any restrictions if it leads to the necessity of gold or dollar payments to Belgium or Switzerland. Another problem is whether each country should unilaterally declare its own "free list" of products or whether a multilateral list should be negotiated. It seems likely that, as with the original intra-European payments plan, the initial liberalization will be very moderate in scope and hedged with numerous restrictions. However, such is the pressure for freeing of intra-European trade as an essential step toward eventual achievement of dollar viability, that further expansion of the program seems assured.

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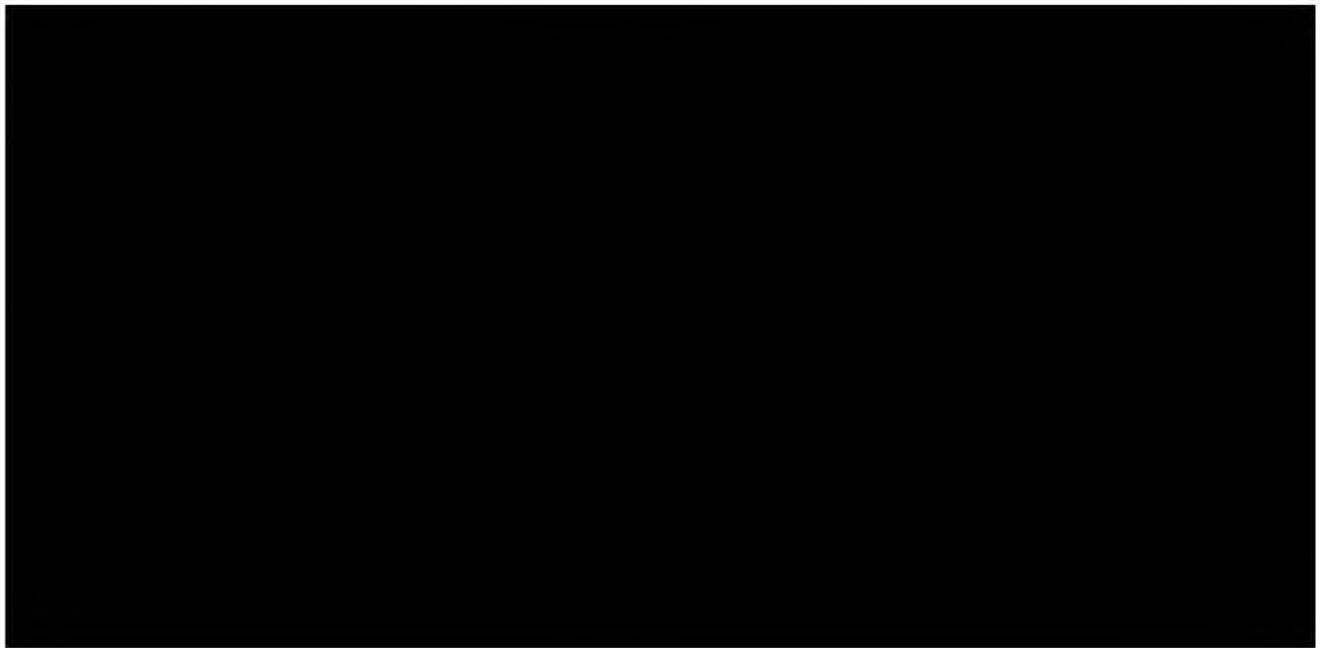
"Peace Partisans" combine with labor, youth and women's internationals in expanded "struggle for peace". An intensified Communist drive to organize public opinion in the Western countries against Western defense plans is indicated by consultations between the World Committee of Partisans for Peace and the major international front organizations. The World Committee recently met in Paris with representatives of the World Federation of Trade Unions, the Women's International Democratic Federation and the World Federation of Democratic Youth to plan the next moves in this drive. Indicative of its rapidly expanding activity were: (1) its claim to be in contact with peace partisan committees in 72 countries; (2) its pledge of "full support" for a Moscow Congress of Peace Partisans in late August and an American Continental Congress for Peace meeting in Mexico City 5-10 September; and (3) agreement to schedule an International Day of Struggle for Peace (tentatively set for 2 October) on which mass popular demonstrations will protest Western defense pacts, colonial "repression" and violations of workers' "freedom".

Simultaneously, the front organizations participating in this drive are extending concerted support to a massive "demonstration of the forces of peace" at the Budapest World Youth Festival (14-28 August) and the Second World Youth Congress (2-8 September). Eight hundred delegates and observers, including three hundred from French West Africa, Malaya, Indonesia, Indochina and Madagascar, will attend. The principal task which the Communist youth leadership is expected to lay before them will be the formulation of "positive conclusions...necessary to reinforce" the fighting capacity of the separate national youth organizations.

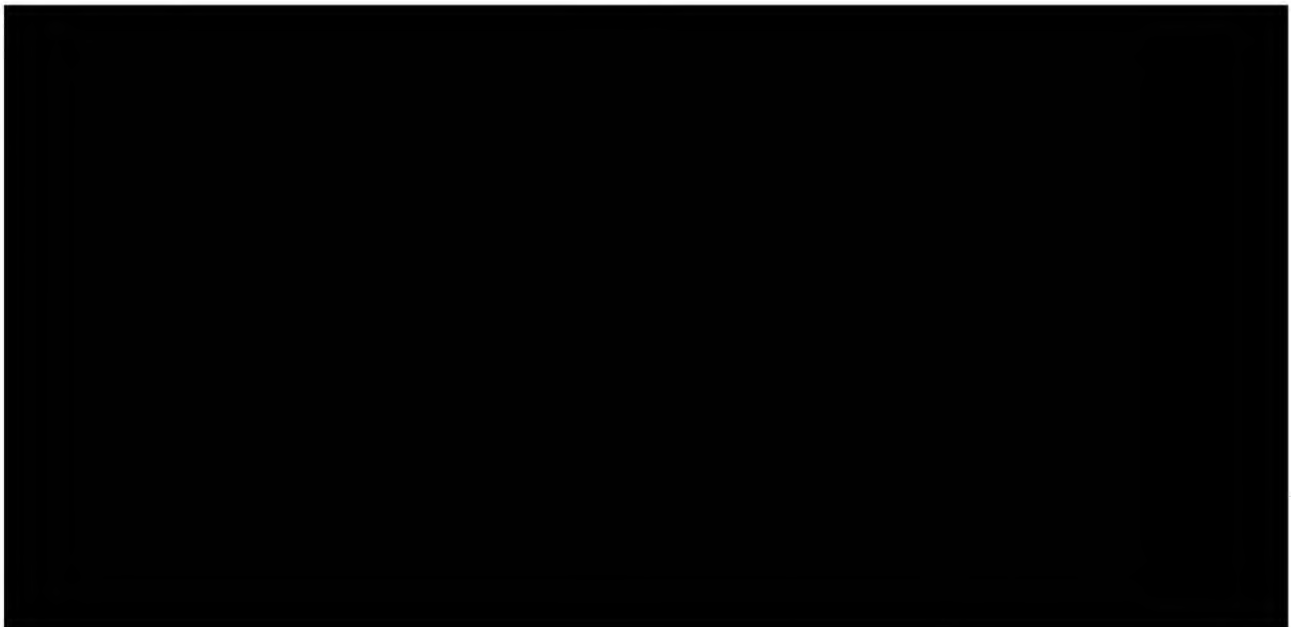
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ICJ likely to get Satellites' human rights cases. The next GA session will probably approve a US-UK proposal to obtain an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice as to whether or not the Soviet Satellites have violated both international law and their peace treaties in refusing to conform to

the treaties' implementation procedures. This approach would circumvent the road-block hitherto successfully thrown up by the Satellites, with the support of the USSR, against all US-UK attempts to invoke these provisions for protesting against the so-called trials of Protestant clergymen in Bulgaria and of Cardinal Mindszenty in Hungary. Rumania will be included in the plan. The USSR and the Satellites have heretofore contended that the GA has no right to intervene, claiming that the matter is a "domestic" one, placed by the UN Charter outside the ambit of that organization. The US and UK are confident that, should the ICJ take the case, it would adopt the reasoning of the old World Court's famous advisory opinion on the Morocco-Tunis Nationality Decrees in 1923. The Court held that the existence of international treaties, similar in essentials to the Satellite treaties, removed the matter from the domestic category. While the US-UK plan would not result in any decision by the present Court on the merits of the controversy, the stigmatizing of the Satellites as treaty-breakers by such an impartial and highly-regarded tribunal as the ICJ would unquestionably have a wide-spread effect.

Czech delegate's role in Kashmir talks. Oldrich Chyle, Czech delegate to the UN Commission for India and Pakistan, will become Commission chairman during the formal political talks between India and Pakistan on Kashmir. Previously described as having attempted to split the Commission and sabotage a Kashmir settlement, Chyle's chairmanship at this time may seriously impede progress of the talks, whose successful outcome is by no means assured.